

What is claimed is:

1        1. An imaging lens comprising four lens components, arranged in order from the object side, as  
2 follows:

3              a first lens component of negative refractive power, having an aspheric surface on the  
4 image side that is concave near the optical axis, and having an aspheric surface on the object  
5 side;

6              a second lens component of positive refractive power and having a convex surface on the  
7 object side;

8              a third lens component of positive refractive power and that includes, in order from the  
9 object side, a lens element of positive refractive power and a lens element of negative refractive  
10 power;

11              a fourth lens component having a surface on the object side that is convex near the optical  
12 axis, and having an aspheric surface on the image side that is convex near the optical axis and  
13 that becomes concave at the periphery;

14 wherein

15              the following condition is satisfied:

16               $-1.0 < (P1 + P5) / P < -0.4$

17 where

18              P1 is the refractive power of said first lens component,

19              P5 is the refractive power of said fourth lens component, and

20              P is the refractive power of the imaging lens.

1        2. The imaging lens of claim 1, wherein said first lens component consists of a lens element.

1        3. The imaging lens of claim 2, wherein said second lens component consists of a lens element.

1        4. The imaging lens of claim 3, wherein said third lens component consists of two lens elements.

- 1        5. The imaging lens of claim 4, wherein said fourth lens component consists of a lens element.
- 1        6. The imaging lens of claim 1, wherein said four lens components are arranged in order from  
2        the object side without any intervening lens element.
- 1        7. The imaging lens of claim 6, wherein said first lens component consists of a lens element.
- 1        8. The imaging lens of claim 7, wherein said second lens component consists of a lens element.
- 1        9. The imaging lens of claim 8, wherein said third lens component consists of two lens elements.
- 1        10. The imaging lens of claim 9, wherein said fourth lens component consists of a lens element.
- 1        11. The imaging lens of claim 1, wherein said imaging lens consists of four lens components.
- 1        12. The imaging lens of claim 11, wherein said first lens component consists of a lens element.
- 1        13. The imaging lens of claim 12, wherein said second lens component consists of a lens  
2        element.
- 1        14. The imaging lens of claim 13, wherein said third lens component consists of two lens  
2        elements.
- 1        15. The imaging lens of claim 14, wherein said fourth lens component consists of a lens element.
- 1        16. The imaging lens of claim 1, wherein said fourth lens component is formed of optical glass.

- 1      17. The imaging lens of claim 16, wherein said four lens components are arranged in order from
- 2      the object side without any intervening lens element.
  
- 1      18. The imaging lens of claim 17, wherein said imaging lens consists of four lens components.
  
- 1      19. The imaging lens of claim 18, wherein said imaging lens consists of five lens elements.
  
- 1      20. The imaging lens of claim 16, wherein said fourth lens component consists of a lens element.